

## **Historic, archived document**

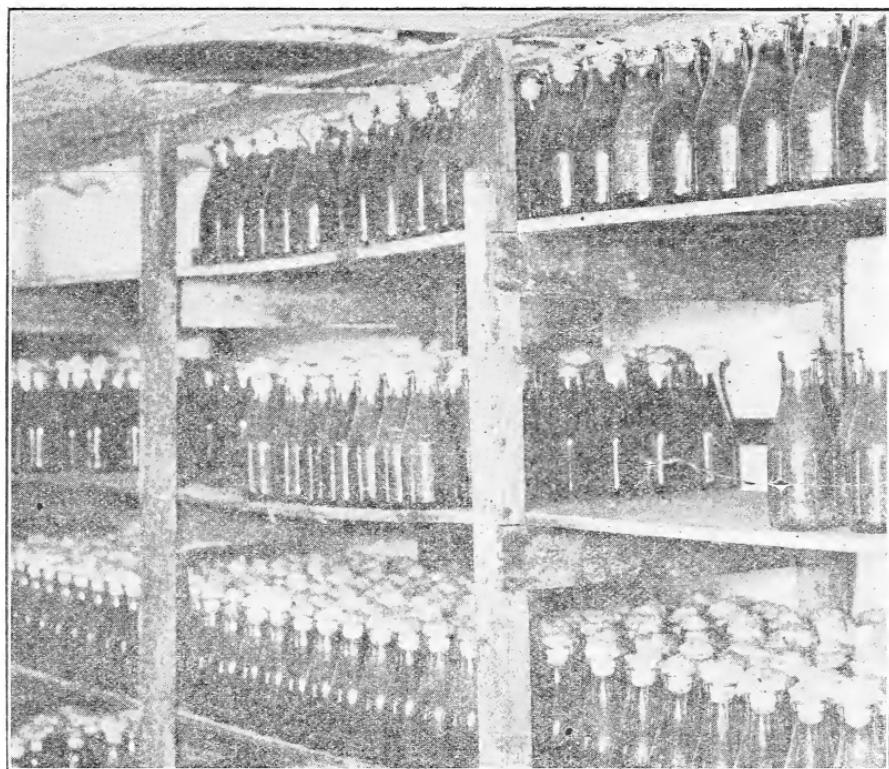
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## BOTTLE SPAWN

Flake or loose spawn is often put up in milk bottles, and is therefore commonly known in this country as "bottle spawn." It differs from the brick in that the carrying medium of the mycelium is in loose or flaky form, whereas in the brick the medium is of a close grain and compact texture. Both are inoculated with the same culture.



BOTTLE SPAWN—A section of the concrete growing rooms in the laboratories of the American Spawn Company, St. Paul, Minn.

Brick and bottle spawn have each their special advantages, and in making a choice, the grower should be guided by the conditions under which he operates, bearing in mind the difference in texture in the two forms of spawn.

Under ideal conditions of temperature and moisture and in a properly composted bed, loose or bottle spawn will start running sooner and give quicker results. However, because of its looser texture, affording less protection to the mycelium, bottle

spawn is more sensitive to injury or adverse conditions in the beds.

Brick spawn, because of its close texture, affording maximum protection to the mycelium, is more resistant and will survive injury or adverse conditions to a greater degree than loose spawn. For instance, a sudden rise in the temperature of the beds after spawning (which frequently occurs), or an excess of moisture in the compost, sufficient to kill the exposed mycelium in the loose spawn, would merely injure the surface of the pieces of brick spawn and leave a protected reserve of mycelium to start running when the temperature of the beds has been reduced or the excess moisture has evaporated.

Since adverse conditions cannot always be foreseen or controlled, it would seem safer for the grower who desires to plant bottle spawn to also plant a good proportion of his beds with brick spawn. This is especially advisable where he cannot control the selection of the manure, where he has no adequate means of protecting his compost against drenching rains, and where he must rely in a great measure on inexperienced help for the preparation or spawning of the beds.

All spawn, brick and bottle, produced by the American Spawn Company, St. Paul, Minn., is based upon pure spore cultures, raised under the French process exclusively owned by it. No tissue cultures are used; there is therefore no dilution or weakening of the strains, and uniform maximum strength is preserved. No other manufacturer has access to this process.

Our spore products are carried in stock by the leading seedsmen and dealers in the United States and Canada. If a grower cannot procure our spawn from his regular dealer, the order may be addressed to the American Spawn Company, St. Paul, Minn., accompanied by remittance, and we will be pleased to fill it promptly or refer it for immediate shipment to a responsible dealer handling our products.

AMERICAN SPAWN COMPANY,

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